

Intelligence Information Report

1-1288

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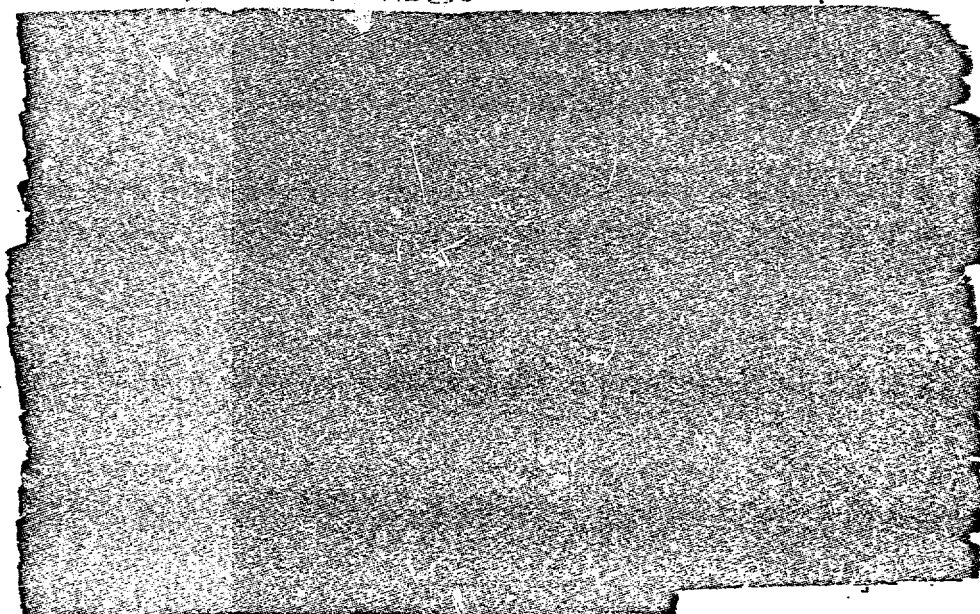
COUNTRY South Vietnam

DOI Late 1965 - Late 1967

SUBJECT An American POW Who Allegedly
Worked for the VC in Quang Da
Special Zone

ACQ Vietnam, Saigon (18 December 1970)

SOURCE



1. Comment: The unidentified prisoner of war /POW/ described in this report may be identical to the POW reported in paragraph 1 of CS-311/03576-70.

2. Between late 1965 and early 1966, the Viet Cong (VC) forces captured an American military enlisted man at a location 30 to 40 kilometers northwest of Danang City, South Vietnam.

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Date MAY 1979

(classification)		(dissem controls)					(for field distribution see final paragraph)	
STATE	DIA	ARMY	NAVY	AIR	NSA	CRS		

ENCLOSURE 36 U55143/DB-4H

[REDACTED] had heard that the American was a marine. The American POW, who appeared to be about 20 years old, was a Caucasian with light brown hair. He was described to [REDACTED] as being taller and of heavier build than the average American. [REDACTED] Comment: [REDACTED] concept of the height of an average American male was about 5'7".) At the time of his capture, the American could speak and read Vietnamese with a fair amount of fluency. He said his father was a mechanic, but mentioned living only with his mother and his wife prior to joining the military service, so it was not clear if his father still lived with his family.

3. A few months after the American was captured, the VC authorities in Quang Da Special Zone (QDSZ) decided to send him to North Vietnam (NVN) so that he could be repatriated to the U.S. to do propaganda work for the National Front for the Liberation of South Vietnam (NFLSV). This decision was made because the American had displayed a sympathetic and cooperative attitude toward the cause of the NFLSV. However, the prisoner insisted that he be allowed to remain in QDSZ in order to do something worthwhile to help the NFLSV. The VC authorities agreed to let the American remain in QDSZ, and as a result he was employed as a translator in the Military Proselyting Section. His assignment was to translate documents and leaflets intended for distribution among U.S. forces from Vietnamese into good colloquial English. [REDACTED] Comment: VC QDSZ includes Danang City and Government of Vietnam /GVN/ Quang Nam Province, less Que Son District and the southern portion of Duc Duc District.)

4. During the time the POW worked for the Military Proselyting Section in QDSZ, he was given a certain amount of freedom and was provided armed escorts for his protection. He was allowed to travel with armed escorts from the coastal delta area to the Que Son mountains. The prisoner did not appear to be armed and was not allowed to go on military operations with the VC forces.

5. The American POW worked for the Military Proselyting Section until late 1967 when he was sent to NVN. It was intended that he be repatriated to the U.S. as soon as possible after his arrival in NVN, but none of the VC cadres in QDSZ knew whether this had actually been accomplished.

6. [REDACTED] Comment: The information provided by [REDACTED] may be related to the circumstances surrounding the status of [REDACTED]. Numerous VC anti-American propaganda leaflets have been found bearing his signature, and there have been sightings of a Caucasian matching [REDACTED] description who reportedly was aiding the VC. However, a portion of [REDACTED] description does not fit [REDACTED] was not married, and he was reported in South Vietnam in 1970. It is of course possible that the POW described by [REDACTED] was not taken to NVN after he left [REDACTED] area of knowledgeability.)

7. Field Dissem: State USMACV USAID CORDS Dir/JUSPAO (Mr. Nickel only) 7th Air Force USARV NAVFORV 1021 FAS OSI 525th MI GP CINCPAC PACFLT PACAF ARPAC